INCOMING TELEGRAM Department of State ACTION COPY

6/19/54 7 p.m.

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Control: 8913
Rec'd: June 18, 1954
1:36 a.m.

FROM: Guatemala City

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1029, June 17, 7 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
1954

file fyi

RC
PC/R
Central Files

Official press and radio carrying on intensive campaign designed to obtain popular support of Arbenz government in face of threatened foreign "invasion". Radio spot announcements at same time informing people tranquility reigns throughout country and that government in complete control of situation. Regular official newscasts today lashing out against independent press and clandestine radio station, accusing both of being "bought by foreign money". Same newscasts also appear preoccupied with national economy theme, reassuring citizens of stability, favorable foreign trade balance and high level of production.

Greatest single radio emphasis given to democratic university front demonstration announced for June 18, 5 p.m. with participation pro-administration youth, student, labor and political organizations. At 15 minute intervals members of foregoing organizations are urged to participate in parade.

National radio hour June 16 carried talk by Agrarian department chief Major Alfonso Martinez refuting statements of doubting Tomases re increased agriculture production and benefits and quoting profuse statistics in evidence adding ususal anti-fruit company line, rejection of State Department's "fantastic" $15 million claim note and denying possibility of attack by "a Central American Government."

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714.00/6-1754

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Correction made by DC/R

7/2/80 CS/N

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